



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
403 Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**GOVERNOR ALBERT SMITH MARKS**  
**(1836-1891)**  
**PAPERS**  
**1879-1881**

**GP 25**

*Processed by:*

Elbert Watson  
Archival Technical Services

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**MICROFILMED**

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Much Correspondence in 1879 called attention to the economic plight of Memphis, resulting from yellow fever epidemic of 1878. C. W. Frazer wrote that city was “essentially a commercial point and do and can do a large business in eight months of the year: but that is not life; it now builds no houses; it runs no factories; it is no industry, and therefore feeds only those who are connected with it...Whatever you may know of Memphis, you do not know a Memphis Cotton Merchant, he is a peculiar animal, the king”. He has but one vision...and he consequently sees but in one direction. They are as a class liberal, clean, gentlemen-social too, but think they can carry any question, even a political one, with a little money.”

Various petitions were presented requesting an extra session of the Legislature to enable Memphians to develop sanitary measures to prevent any recurrence of epidemics. There was even talk that the legislature would have to abolish Memphis city charter because of the financial embarrassment.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### Governor Albert S. Marks

- 1836 October 16, Born in Daviess County, Kentucky. The father, Elisha Marks, died when Albert was fourteen. At the age of nineteen, Marks who moved to Winchester, Tennessee, where he began the study of law.
- 1858 Admitted to the bar.
- 1861 Entered the Confederate service.
- 1863 April 29, Married Miss Novella Davis, a native of Wilson County.
- 1870 Elected Chancellor of the Fourth Chancery Division. At the end of his eight-year term, he was re-elected but did not serve out that term.
- 1878 Elected governor of Tennessee.
- 1888 Chosen an Elector for the State-at-large on the Cleveland-Thurman ticket, his last political activity.
- 1891 November 4, Died in his room at the Maxwell House.  
Buried at Winchester, Tennessee.

## CONTAINER LIST

### Microfilm Roll #1

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#### Box 1

- 1 Correspondence (Outgoing); Gov. Albert S. Marks; 1879
- 2 Correspondence (Incoming); Allison-Van Dyke; 1878
- 3 Correspondence (Incoming); Alexander-Bryant; 1879
- 4 Correspondence (Incoming); Codwise-Dow; 1879
- 5 Correspondence (Incoming); Fite-Gregg; 1879
- 6 Correspondence (Incoming); Hadden-Kirkpatrick; 1879
- 7 Correspondence (Incoming); Latta-Murphey; 1879
- 8 Correspondence (Incoming); Overman-Ross; 1879
- 9 Correspondence (Incoming); Sawyer-Stacker; 1879
- 10 Correspondence (Incoming); Tappen-Young; 1879
- 11 Correspondence (Incoming); Bowers-Jackson; 1880
- 12 Correspondence (Incoming); Leslie-Wyly; 1880
- 13 Correspondence (Incoming); Buguo-Renfroe; 1881
- 14 Correspondence, Re: Commissioner of Deeds; 1879-1881

#### Box 2

- 1 Miscellaneous Correspondence
- 2 Miscellaneous Correspondence; Avery-Yuckley; 1878-1879
- 3 Miscellaneous Correspondence; Eakin-Seavers; 1879-1880
- 4 Miscellaneous Correspondence; Appleton-Woodard; 1878-1879
- 5 Miscellaneous Material; 1879-1881
- 6 Miscellaneous Material; 1881
- 7 Election certification; 1880
- 8 Account receipts

### Microfilm Roll #2

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#### Box 3

- 1 Petitions for Pardons; Adk-Wal; 1879
- 2 Petitions for Pardons; Edd-Kir; 1879

#### Box 4

- 1 Petitions for Pardons; Led-Wil; 1879

### Microfilm Roll #3

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- 2 Petitions for Pardons; Adc-Doy; 1880
- 3 Petitions for Pardons; Edw-Fur; 1880

**Box 5**

1 Petitions for Pardons; Gai-Myn; 1880

**Microfilm Roll #4**

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2 Petitions for Pardons; Nap-Yan; 1880

**Box 6**

1 Petitions for Pardons; App-Whi; 1881

2 Requisitions for Extradition; All-Wil; 1879-1880

3 Pardons; Bal-Wit; 1881

## NAME INDEX

This index contains names of persons holding influential positions during this period. In some instances, however, correspondence is included because the content is important enough to warrant attention in the index. The figures in the parenthesis immediately following each name denote the total number of letters in the folder from that person. The identification of the writer and the site from where the letters were written are included whenever possible.

### **Box 1, Folder 4, 1879**

M. H. Clark (1) Secretary, Clarksville Tobacco Board of Trade, Clarksville, Tennessee.  
W. M. Clark (1) President, Nashville Banner Publishing Company, Nashville.

### **Box 1, Folder 5, 1879**

C. W. Frazer (3) Business leader, Memphis.

### **Box 1, Folder 6, 1879**

J. B. Heiskell (1) Attorney, Memphis.

### **Box 1, Folder 7, 1879**

John M. Lea (1) Member, House of Representative, Nashville.

### **Box 1, Folder 10, 1879**

J. A. Van Hoose (1) President, University of the South, Sewanee.  
Casey Young (1) U.S. Congressman, Washington D.C.

## **SUBJECT INDEX**

Listed below are notable subjects included in this collection. In some instances, the subject is brought out in only one letter, but the information contained therein is significant enough to warrant its inclusion in the index. When no date is given, the researcher can expect to find the subject mentioned throughout the collection.

1. Public Schools 1879.
2. Negro labor 1879.
3. Mississippi River Improvement Convention 1879.
4. Tobacco Law, 1879.
5. Bureau of Agriculture, Killebrew, 1879.
6. Memphis, economic condition, 1879.
7. Railroad construction, 1879.